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August 19, 1975

National Security Study Memorandum 229

TO:

The Secretary of Defense
The Attorney General
The Director, Office of Management and Budget
The Deputy Secretary of State
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Counsel to the President

SUBJECT:

Review of the Management of
Classified National Security Information

The President has directed that a review be made of the management of classified national security information in the light of three years experience with Executive Order 11652, the passage of amendments to the Freedom of Information Act, and current Congressional consideration of legislation which would change the present system of executive branch management and control of classified national security information. The study should include an examination of:

- the effectiveness of Executive Order 11652 in meeting the goal of protecting national security information consistent with making the maximum amount of information available to the public;
- the current and potential longer range impact of amendments to the FOIA relating to the declassification and release of classified material;
- the impact of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the Right of Privacy Act;
- the status and potential impact of legislation currently under Congressional consideration (including S. 1 and S. 5) relating to the classification system.

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Based upon the results of these reviews, the study should:

- Evaluate the need for and substance of changes in Executive Order 11652 or guidelines for preparation of a new executive order which would enhance the effectiveness of the current system.
- Submit recommendations concerning possible legislative action in the area of management and control of classified information.

This study will be prepared by an ad hoc group, including representatives of the addressees and chaired by the Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. The study should be submitted by September 30, 1975 for review by the NSC Senior Review Group prior to its consideration by the President.



Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Acting Chairman, Interagency Classification Review Committee

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